

HO-1021

Newton-Earp House

6084 Old Washington Boulevard, Elkridge

Demolished

DESCRIPTION:

The Newton-Earp House is a two-story, three-bay by one-bay frame structure with wood shingles, a rubble stone foundation, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northeast-southwest ridge. It has a two-story addition on the northeast that is two bays by one bay, with a one-story wing to the rear that is also two bays by one bay. This addition has a CMU foundation, wood shingles, and a gable roof with standing-seam metal and a northeast-southwest ridge on the two-story section, and with a shed roof on the one-story section. The northeast addition is set back from the plane of the main block. There is also a two-story ell on the northwest elevation of the main block that is one bay by one bay, has a rubble stone foundation, wood shingles, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northwest-southeast ridge. On the southeast elevation is a one-story, five-bay hipped roof porch. The first story has a hall/parlor plan with a stair in the large entrance hall. The house is a double-pile with two rooms across the back divided by a bathroom and small vestibule, and there is one room added to the northeast end. The stair hall has a two-run dog-leg stair on the northeast wall. The house was built with guttered corner posts and re-used wooden railroad stringers.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Blacksmith Thomas Newton purchased a ¼-acre lot at what was then the southern edge of Elkridge in 1827 from wheelwright Stephen Bryan, on which he built his shop, and in 1842 Newton purchased an adjoining five-acre parcel. Newton likely moved into the house on the new property until he could rebuild on the new lot. The house was originally built as a two-room, two-story frame main block with a 1 ½-story ell on the rear. The south front room was a parlor with a fireplace on the southwest, and there was most likely a side passage. The ell likely held the kitchen. The house was built of guttered corner posts and the ell was built over a cellar, with some of the first-story floor joists here being re-used wood railroad stringers. Between about 1890 and 1910 the northeast wall was taken down and the house expanded to the northeast. This created a much wider entrance hall, with a new stairway and a bay window at the front. The carriage house was probably built at this time, too. Major changes came in the 1920s when the house was converted to two apartments. The northeast addition was built to get a bedroom downstairs for the first-story apartment and a stairway to the upstairs apartment, as well as a sleeping porch up there. In July 2010 the house was demolished to subdivide the land for development.

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Maryland Inventory of

Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-1021

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Newton-Earp House

other

2. Location

street and number 6084 Old Washington Boulevard ☐ not for publication

city, town Elkridge ☐ vicinity

county Howard

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Michael L. Pfau

street and number 3675 Park Ave., Ste. 301 telephone

city, town Ellicott City state MD zip code 21043-4511

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse liber 9010 folio 628

city, town Ellicott City tax map 38 tax parcel 437 tax ID number

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			0

7. Description

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Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

SUMMARY:

The Newton-Earp House is a two-story, three-bay by one-bay frame structure with wood shingles, a rubble stone foundation, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northeast-southwest ridge. It has a two-story addition on the northeast that is two bays by one bay, with a one-story wing to the rear that is also two bays by one bay. This addition has a CMU foundation, wood shingles, and a gable roof with standing-seam metal and a northeast-southwest ridge on the two-story section, and with a shed roof on the one-story section. The northeast addition is set back from the plane of the main block. There is also a two-story ell on the northwest elevation of the main block that is one bay by one bay, has a rubble stone foundation, wood shingles, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northwest-southeast ridge. On the southeast elevation is a one-story, five-bay hipped roof porch. The first story has a hall/parlor plan with a stair in the large entrance hall. The house is a double-pile with two rooms across the back divided by a bathroom and small vestibule, and there is one room added to the northeast end. The stair hall has a two-run dog-leg stair on the northeast wall. The house was built with guttered corner posts and re-used wooden railroad stringers.

DESCRIPTION:

The Newton-Earp House at 6084 Old Washington Boulevard is located on the north side of the road, set several hundred feet back from the road, and faces southeast toward the road. It is located in Elkridge, in eastern Howard County, Maryland.

House, exterior

The house is a two-story, three-bay by one-bay frame structure with wood shingles, a rubble stone foundation, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northeast-southwest ridge. It has a two-story addition on the northeast that is two bays by one bay, with a one-story wing to the rear that is also two bays by one bay. This addition has a CMU foundation, wood shingles, and a gable roof with standing-seam metal and a northeast-southwest ridge on the two-story section, and with a shed roof on the one-story section. The northeast addition is set back from the plane of the main block. There is also a two-story ell on the northwest elevation of the main block that is one bay by one bay, has a rubble stone foundation, wood shingles, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northwest-southeast ridge.

On the southeast elevation of the main block of the house, the first story east bay has a three-sided bay with a one-over-one sash on each side that has blinds. The east-center bay is a door with one light of beveled glass over one panel that has an applied wreath. There are dentils below the glass. The door is of oak, and there is a one-light transom above it. The south and south-center bays have a one-over-one sash with exterior blinds. All of the openings have head-cut trim. There is a one-story, five-bay hipped roof porch with a wood deck, Greek Doric columns, and a standing seam metal roof. The porch extends east of the east bay. It has a bead board soffit. The second story east bay is identical to the first story. The three west bays have typical one-over-one sash. There is a wood box cornice. The east bay has a gable with a northwest-southeast ridge.

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The southwest elevation of the main block has a typical one-over-one sash set to the west of the first and second stories. The southwest elevation of the ell has a typical one-over-one sash in the center of the first and second stories, and a cellar entrance with plywood door and CMU cheek walls that are parged. The exterior, at the south end, has German siding beneath the wood shingles, and it is fastened with cut nails. It has light bluish-gray paint and there were originally corner boards.

The northwest elevation of the ell, on the first story, has a small window with a new two-light sliding sash at the north end and a typical one-over-one sash set north of center. The second story has a new sash in the center, and there is no opening in the gable end. The northeast elevation of the main block, east of the northeast addition, has a one-light sash with a stained glass transom on the first story. The second story has a typical one-over-one sash, and there is no opening in the gable end.

The southeast elevation of the northeast addition has a fifteen-light door in the south bay on the first story, with a shed-roofed porch over the doorway, behind the projecting front porch. To the east is a typical one-over-one sash. The second story has no opening to the south, and the east bay has triple four-over-four double hung sash. The northeast elevation of the northeast addition has no opening in the east bay of the first story and has a typical one-over-one sash in the north bay. The second story also has triple four-over-four sash to the east.

The northwest elevation of the northeast addition, on the first story, has a five-lying-panel door to the north and a new small sash in the center in an old opening with head-cut trim. The west bay is covered by an enclosed northeastern porch on the ell. The second story of the addition has triple four-over-four sash to the north. The west bay has a flat-roofed addition on the second story that is one bay and has paired one-light casements. The northeast elevation of this small addition has a small four-light casement. There is a one-story, one-bay square gable-roofed addition on the northwestend of the enclosed porch. It has wood shingles and a standing-seam metal roof with a north-south ridge. There is no opening on the northeast side of this addition. The northwest elevation has a new in-filled door in the center with six-light casements to each side. The southwest elevation of this little addition has a six-light lying casement. The northeast elevation of the enclosed porch that is on the northeast side of the ell has a low shed-roofed addition to it on the first story. This addition has wood shingles and a large two-light sliding sash that is modern. The second story of the ell has a six-over-six double hung sash partly behind the addition to the wing. There is an interior brick chimney on the southwest gable end of the main block and the northwest gable end of the ell, set west of the ridge.

House, interior, first story

The first story has a hall/parlor plan with a stair in the large entrance hall. The house is a double-pile with two rooms across the back divided by a bathroom and small vestibule, and there is one room added

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to the northeast end. The stair hall has 2½-inch wide tongue-and-grooved pine flooring that runs northeast- southwest. The baseboard has an ogee and bevel on the top of it. The architrave on the windows and the front, or southeast, door is symmetrical, with a sunken field that has an ogee to each side. The architrave has a small bead on the inner edge. The architrave on the southwest and northwest doors is plain, with a bead along the bottom of the top piece and a cornice moulding at the top of it; this cornice has an ogee above a cavetto. This architrave appears to date from the c. 1920s and is typical for certain other openings throughout the house. The front door has one beveled light above one panel that is sunken and flat. The windows have one-over-one sash that are hung on weights with cords, and they have parting beads. There is a closed-off transom over the front door. To the east of the front door is a bay window. The window on the northeast elevation, at the foot of the stairs, has a small stained glass light over a tall light. The stained glass has a green outer border, a pink inner border, a yellow field, and clear pebble glass with tear drops on either side that end with fleurs-de-lis, and with three-lobed buds at the top and bottom. The center of each of these decorative features is made with yellow pebble glass and the center glass between these four features is clear beveled glass. There is a two-run dog-leg stair on the northeast wall. It has a closed stringer with three reeds applied to the center of the stringer. There is a turned newel post that is symmetrical, and is fatter in the center, with three reeds around the center. The newel is square at the top and bottom, and has a large bulbous finial on the top. The balusters are thin, are turned and tapered, and are symmetrical, with four reeds around the center. All of the stair trim has a natural pine finish. The stairway is now closed off above the landing, but the railing survives and the newel post has a large bulbous drop pendant on it. There are square panels between the stringer, and they are sunken and flat and have large quirked ogee panel moulds. Beneath the stairway at the landing is a door with four lying panels, hung on butt hinges with ball finials. The door leads to a closet beneath the stairway. The west doorway had two doors in it that have been removed, and the floor here is patched indicating that the opening had been widened, and originally only held a single door.

The northwest and southeast walls of the stair hall were opened up, revealing that the northeastern end wall of the original house was located across the center of this room, just east of the front door. Both corner posts were guttered and had the same down braces as found on the south corner post (see below). These posts were cut back in order to be flush with the inside wall when the house was enlarged to the northeast, thus removing the guttering. The southwest, or partition, wall has riven lath with cut nails and must be original. Given the narrow width of the original east room, the house must have had a side-passage plan. The northwest wall, west of the original corner post, has a lintel with an in-filled stud below it and re-used riven lath fastened over the opening with wire nails. There is a stud in the center above the lintel, with riven lath that must be reused fastened on it with wire nails. This appears to have been a doorway, but it is set right against the post where the stairs should have been. The southwest wall has riven lath on it down low, not interrupted where a stair stringer would have been, and suggesting that the stairs were not running along the west wall. The northwest end of the ceiling is sawn

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lath with plaster and drywall, while the southeast end is riven lath with plaster and drywall. There was never a down brace across the northwest wall; however this was an interior wall. There is a horizontal inserted to the west end of the passage in the northwest wall, with an inserted stud toe-nailed with wire nails. This whole northwest wall must have been heavily reworked, and it is not clear what was originally located here.

The south room flooring, baseboard, and architrave match that of the east stair hall. The baseboard here is fastened with wire nails. There is a fireplace on the southwest elevation that has a brick hearth and a fire brick firebox. It has a brick mantel that appears to date from about the 1920s and has been erected over top of an earlier fireplace. The south jamb of the fireplace has a wood closet set above the mantel, with a vertical-board door that has tapered, dovetailed flush battens that are screwed to the boards of the door. The hinges have been replaced with stamped-plate butt hinges that probably date to the late 19th century. The closet shelves are nailed in from the sides with cut nails, indicating that the closet was prebuilt and set in place, with the brick fireplace wall built up to it. The south corner of the room was opened up to examine the construction. The plaster is laid on thick riven lath fastened with cut nails. The south corner post is guttered and has down braces. The down braces are sawn, though there are no clear marks, and they measure $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches by 6 inches. The down braces are lapped into the outer face of the corner post. The corner post is $3\frac{3}{4}$ to 4 inches thick with a gutter of $1\frac{3}{4}$ to 2 inches, making the original dimensions of the corner posts about $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches square. The siding is flush, and is cut with a circular saw that had a large blade, leaving very little curve to the tool marks on the siding. There is a doorway on the north elevation that has architrave with plain sides and plain head-cut top with a quirked Greek ovolo cornice on it that is fastened with cut nails. It has a six-panel door that is mortised and tenoned and pinned and has sunken fields and quirked Greek ovolo panel moulds. It is hung on cast iron butt hinges that have five knuckles and are labeled "T. CLARK." The earlier rim lock has been replaced by a mortise lock that probably dates to around the 1920s. The door frame has studs that are 3 inches wide by $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches deep and are sash-sawn. The door header is 4 inches tall by $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches thick, and the studs are notched for the header to lap them. The header is toe-nailed to the studs with cut nails, and there is riven lath that covers the top edge of the door header. The southwest corner has an iron "U"-shaped ring in the wall approximately 8 inches below the ceiling. This appears to be an original feature, though it is not clear what it was for.

The west room has the same flooring as the south room, with a patch by the door on the southeast. It also has the same baseboard and architrave, and this woodwork was all originally varnished. The architrave on the southeast door is fastened with wire nails. The original flooring is below the existing flooring, and is random-width pine that varies between $3\frac{1}{2}$ and $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches; it runs northwest-southeast. There is a brick chimney on the northwest elevation, with a closet to the north of it that has a door with fifteen lights; this door is shorter than most of the other doors in the house. The northeast wall appears to be added, and has circular-sawn lath and plaster with a door added that has circa 1920s trim. The

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door has four panels with sunken fields and ovolo panel moulds, and has a mortise lock with metal knobs that dates to the circa 1920s. The southeast wall is riven lath with plaster. The northwest wall, north of the chimney, has all sawn lath and there is no evidence of whether the ell was one room or two originally. The northeast side of the chimney has sawn lath at the top and plaster on brick at the bottom. Beneath the wallpaper at the bottom is green stenciling consisting of dark green small leaves on thin branches in an all-over random arrangement. The background is a light green, though it could be white with a green paint that bled into it to color it. The edges of the leaves were too indistinct to trace the pattern. This stenciling is not found at the top of the wall.

The northwest-center room is a bathroom with a small claw-foot tub. The four-panel door to this room has sunken fields and ogee panel moulds, and is hung on stamped-plate butt hinges with three knuckles and pins. There is a rim lock with porcelain knobs. The northwest window in this room has plain head-cut trim. To the southeast of the room is a small vestibule that has typical symmetrical trim with corner blocks. On the southeast side of the vestibule is a built-in cupboard that has two doors at the top with nine-lights each, and the lights are 5½ inches by 9½ inches. The doors are hung on butt hinges with ball finials, and there are three shelves in the top half of the cupboard. The cupboard has two doors at the bottom, each with one sunken, flat panel, and they are also hung on butt hinges with ball finials.

The north room is a modern kitchen in an enclosed porch, and the floor is set one step down from the east and northwest-center rooms. The ceiling has beaded-edge-and-center boards and slopes down at the northeast end.

The northeast addition has a closet beneath the stairway and one room with a bathroom in it along the north wall. The doors have five lying panels and are hung on butt hinges with ball finials. The flooring is 2⅜-inch pine that runs north-south. The architrave is the typical circa 1920s architrave for this house. The doors have mortise locks with metal knobs that also appear to date to this period, and there is a door on the northwest elevation, set to the north, that leads to the exterior.

House, interior, second story

The second story of the main block has a passage along the northwest side with two chambers to the southeast, a chamber and bathroom to the northwest, located in the ell, a room over the kitchen in the enclosed porch below, and a sleeping porch in the northeast addition. The stairway has a landing at the northwest end with a doorway inserted at the southeast end of the landing, and this doorway has circa 1920s trim. There is a doorway at the northeast end of the landing that also has circa 1920s trim. There are five steps that ascend to the southwest, and the railing along these steps matches that of the stairway below the landing. A wall has been constructed to the southeast of the balustrade to enclose the stairway above the landing. The newel post at the landing was replaced in order to put in a post for the doorway at the landing. The top newel post is original. The flooring in the passage is 3-inch tongue-and-grooved

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pine that runs northeast-southwest. The baseboard has a quirked ogee and bevel at the top. The architrave is symmetrical, with a sunken field flanked by ogee mouldings, and with corner blocks. The exception is the doorway to the west chamber. The doorway to the northwest-center chamber is shorter than the rest of the doorways.

The east chamber flooring, baseboard, and architrave match that of the passage. There is a closet on the northwest wall, in the center. The southwest wall has a doorway with plain circa 1920s trim, but with corner blocks. The southeast wall has a three-sided bay window. The sash are all typical one-over-one sash. Just south of the bay window is a guttered corner post that was hacked back when the original northeast wall of the main block was taken down and the room enlarged to the northeast. The partition wall on the southwest is added here and has sawn lath. This wall covers over plaster on the south wall that has wallpaper over top of paint. There is no indication of an original partition wall in the second story of the main block, though this could all be hidden.

The south chamber flooring, baseboard, and architrave match the passage. The southeast door architrave matches the east chamber side. There is a fireplace on the southwest elevation with a new brick hearth and brick mantel that match the first story fireplace and date to the circa 1920s. The firebox has old brick splayed jambs that are painted. The south corner was opened up to reveal a guttered corner post with no up braces. The plastered wall was laid on riven lath fastened with cut nails.

The west, or ell, chamber has 2½-inch pine flooring that is raised above the level of the passage floor. The baseboard and architrave match the passage. There is a closet on the northwest, west of the chimney, with a short door that has typical architrave and has four panels with sunken fields and ogee panel moulds. The door is hung on butt hinges with ball finials. The door into this chamber is mortised and tenoned and pinned, has six panels with sunken fields and quirked Greek ovolo panel moulds, and is hung on cast iron butt hinges that have five knuckles and are labeled "BALDWIN" and "PATENT." The door has a plain cast iron rim lock with mineral knobs. The southwest wall originally came up only 5 feet 7 inches above the floor. The plate consists of two sash-sawn beams that are 2¾ inches by 4 inches, the same size as the studs, and are ganged together. This wall now has circular-sawn lath with wire nails, but the southeast wall has riven lath with cut nails below the level of the top of the plate and circular-sawn lath above it. The northeast wall has sawn lath and no raised plate.

The northwest-center chamber is now a bathroom with a claw-foot tub and a modern sink and toilet. The six-panel door to this chamber matches the west chamber door but is shorter and has new hinges and porcelain knobs. There is a closet at the northwest end of the room that has a four-panel door with sunken fields and ogee panel moulds. It is hung on butt hinges with ball finials and has plain architrave with an ogee and bevel moulding across the top. There is a 20th-century wood sash on the east elevation that is hung on tapes. It has symmetrical architrave with bulls-eye corner blocks. The cupboard on the

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east has a beveled glass mirror and is built of bead board with a dark varnish on the interior. There is no evidence in this chamber of the original wall on the east side or on the south.

The north chamber flooring matches the west chamber, and it has plain baseboard. This room is a kitchen and has casement windows on the northwest and northeast elevations with circa 1920s architrave. On the southeast wall, to the east, at the floor level there is a small one-panel door that gives access to the landing in the northeast addition. The door panel is sunken and flat. The door was probably for milk delivery.

The northeast addition chamber reads as a sleeping porch. The stairs ascend along the southwest wall and are enclosed, ending at a landing at the northwest end next to the main stair landing but one step down from it. The stairs then turn to the northeast with four steps up. There is a railing around the stairs with plain square newel posts and a circa 1920s toed back railing and rectangular balusters. The flooring is 2½-inch pine that runs northwest-southeast, and there is plain baseboard. There are four-over-four double hung sash that are hung on cords, with three each on the northwest, northeast, and southeast elevations. In the south corner is a closet with a two-panel door of natural varnished pine.

House, interior, basement

The basement is located under the west and northwest-center rooms, or original ell, only. The walls are rubble stone, at least some of which is gabbro. There was originally an exterior entrance on the northeast elevation, at the north end. This has been closed off and an opening made on the southwest elevation. The summer beam here is a replacement that was added. The southeast sill has a mortise in it at this location where the original summer beam was. The joists run northeast-southwest. The southwestern joists are ¾-round logs that are 5 to 9 inches in diameter. The northeastern joists are re-used wooden railroad stringers that are sash-sawn and are 6 inches square. One face of each joist has a large rabbet in it that is ½ inch deep and 3¼ inches wide. There are wrought iron L-head spikes driven into the joists in this rabbet, most of them broken off, and others having simply left square holes in the wood. The spikes and holes are spaced 11 to 20 inches apart. One of these stringers has a mortise in the side of it with a peg hole, and this feature must date to its original railroad use since it is not part of the house construction. The mortise is 1½ inches by 7 inches and passes all the way through the stringer. It may have held a tie beam that would have kept the stringers in gauge. There is a down brace that laps the southeast sill and is nailed to it with cut nails. The southeast sill corner joint has a center tenon into a mortise in the southwest sill. There are several pegs near the bottom of the southeast sill, but there are no posts here and it is not clear what these pegs were intended for. The studs are 2¾ by 4 inches and have no clear connection to the southeast sill. The flooring above is tongue-and-grooved and is sawn, and is not undercut. The northwest brick chimney is sitting directly on the foundation wall.

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House, interior, attic

The attic of the ell captures the wood shingle roof of the main block. The shingles are circular-sawn, are 5½ to 6 inches wide, and are 15½ to 18 inches long with a 5½- to 6-inch weather. There are ¾ inch-wide iron straps nailed to the face of the shingles with cut nails, and they apparently originally held the gutters. The bottom half of these straps were snapped off when the roof was raised on the ell. The shingles are laid on wide boards with gaps between them.

Carriage house

About 75 feet northwest of the house is a two-story, three-bay by one-bay frame carriage house with wood shingle siding and a gable roof with a north-south ridge and asphalt shingles. The northeast elevation has a narrow door in the east bay with three lights over two tall panels, and the center and north bays each have a modern roll-up garage door. The second story has a six-light sash in the center and north bays. It is built of circular-sawn timber. There is a modern shed-roofed addition on the northwest end.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

Specific dates N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

Construction dates c. 1842-45, c. 1896, c. 1925

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

SUMMARY:

Blacksmith Thomas Newton purchased a 1/4-acre lot at what was then the southern edge of Elkridge in 1827 from wheelwright Stephen Bryan, on which he built his shop, and in 1842 Newton purchased an adjoining five-acre parcel. Newton likely moved into the house on the new property until he could rebuild on the new lot. The house was originally built as a two-room, two-story frame main block with a 1 1/2-story ell on the rear. The south front room was a parlor with a fireplace on the southwest, and there was most likely a side passage. The ell likely held the kitchen. The house was built of guttered corner posts and the ell was built over a cellar, with some of the first-story floor joists here being re-used wood railroad stringers. Between about 1890 and 1910 the northeast wall was taken down and the house expanded to the northeast. This created a much wider entrance hall, with a new stairway and a bay window at the front. The carriage house was probably built at this time, too. Major changes came in the 1920s when the house was converted to two apartments. The northeast addition was built to get a bedroom downstairs for the first-story apartment and a stairway to the upstairs apartment, as well as a sleeping porch up there. In July 2010 the house was demolished to subdivide the land for development.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Newton-Earp House had a longer and much more complicated history than what it appeared to have from the exterior of the house. Blacksmith Thomas Newton purchased a 1/4-acre lot at what was then the southern edge of Elkridge in 1827 from wheelwright Stephen Bryan for \$20. The two occupations had an overlap that led to both often being located together, and it would seem that Bryan and Newton had arranged to work together. Then, in 1842 Newton purchased an adjoining five-acre parcel for \$250, and this property apparently had a cemetery on it, since the grantors, Emanuel and Thomas Lewis, reserved the right to bury their dead at the north end of the property. The purchase of this lot enabled Newton to be close to his place of employment, though there may have been a more immediate reason for the move. In January 1842 the local newspapers reported that "the dwelling house of Mr. Newton, at

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-1021

Name Newton-Earp House
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Elkridge Landing was consumed by fire; and what renders it more distressing was, that an invalid sister of the gentleman was unable to make her escape, and was burnt with the building. As is too often the case, the fire was communicated by ashes placed in an unsafe location." Since no first name was given, it is impossible to be certain if this was the blacksmith's house, but the timing of events makes it seem very likely. The tax assessment and transfer books for Howard District note the transfer to Newton of a "House + Lot on Washington Rd." in 1843. While it would seem that the existing house must have been standing at this time, there are several reasons to think that it is a replacement for an earlier structure. One reason for this conclusion is the low price paid for the property. If there was a house on it, this building must have been very small or in terrible shape to have brought so little. Fifty dollars an acre is a typical price in this period for cleared but otherwise unimproved lots in a town. Ten months after Newton purchased this land the tax assessments record that he sold a house and lot "at the landing" for \$900, and this included a smaller quantity of land. This house must have been located much closer to the river, and presumably was no longer actually standing. Newton likely moved into the house on the new property until he could rebuild on the new lot.¹

Later historical evidence serves to make stronger the apparent link between Newton and Bryan. In the 1860 Martenet Map of Howard County Newton is shown as living next to the wheelwright, and the 1850 census of manufactures lists Newton's production as being "tyres, h. shoes & other articles," which is also suggestive. The 1850 census lists Thomas Newton as a 50-year-old blacksmith, along with his wife, Ann, who was 46, and their four children. The oldest, Thomas S. Newton, was 22 and was also a blacksmith. Also living with them was Mary Bryan, who was 60 and was not listed as a servant. If the listed ages are accurate (and sometimes they are not), then Mary was probably not Ann's mother, but she could very well have been related. Listed just after Newton in the census was Stephen Bryan, a 58-year-old wheelwright, along with his wife, nine children, and 65-year-old Sarah Bryan. Thus, in addition to being neighbors and likely business associates, it is also possible that there was some familial connection between Newton and Bryan. The arrangement between the two men may not have always been smooth, however. In 1847 Bryan offered his shop and a dwelling for sale, but given the subsequent history, seems not to have followed through on the sale.²

In addition to the low price, the other piece of evidence that the house was built by Newton is some of the fabric of the house. The building underwent numerous changes, and these need to be carefully

¹ Anne Arundel County Land Records, WSG 13-71. *Baltimore Sun*, 31 January 1842, p. 2, col. 2. Howard County Commissioners, Transfer Book, 1841-51, Maryland State Archives. Howard County Land Records, 4-55.

² Simon J. Martenet, *Martenet's Map of Howard County, Maryland* (Baltimore, 1860). U. S. Bureau of the Census, Census of Manufactures, Howard District, Anne Arundel County, Maryland, 1850. U. S. Bureau of the Census, Howard District, Anne Arundel County, Maryland, 1850. *Baltimore Sun*, 21 Dec. 1847, p. 2, col. 3.

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Inventory No. HO-1021

Name Newton-Earp House
Continuation Sheet

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traced to understand the history. The house was originally built as a two-room, two-story frame main block with a 1 ½-story ell on the rear. The south front room was a parlor with a fireplace on the southwest, and this fireplace still contains a built-in cupboard on the southeast side, with a board and batten door that has tapered, dovetailed battens. These are rare, because of the extra work required to cut and fit them, and they have generally been found in the first half of the nineteenth century in buildings associated with German settlers and/or builders, though too little is known about them at this time to draw any reliable conclusions. The Washington Boulevard corridor has been found to have had a German presence, but most of these seem to have come after the Revolution of 1848. However, this, too, has been little studied, and the second German migration to America is known to have begun earlier, perhaps as early as 1815, and was given a push as a result of the Revolution of 1830.³ The east front room was narrow and was most likely a side passage. No evidence was found of the stairway, but this may be due to the fact that the northeast gable end wall was taken down and the stairway likely ascended on this wall. The ell likely held the kitchen, and the original chimney appears to have been built for a cooking range. It retains some stenciling on the plaster consisting of an all-over pattern of fine green foliage. The house was built of guttered corner posts, a traditional technique developed in the eighteenth century to hide the post within the wall by cutting out the exposed inside corner. It had been believed that this technique had been abandoned by 1820, but the discovery, in the last five years, of six other examples scattered about Howard County indicates that local builders continued to employ it at least into the 1850s, and possibly the 1860s.

The ell was built over a cellar, and some of the first-story floor joists here were re-used wood railroad stringers. When the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad first constructed their main line, they employed several methods of track-laying. One was two parallel lines of granite stringers on which thin iron strap rail was spiked, and another was similar parallel wood stringers, with similar strap rail. The original plan (which was implemented) was to have horse-drawn cars, and the horses walked in between the two rails. Thus, there could be no impediments on which the horses might trip, and these forms kept the center of the track clear of obstacles. These wood stringers have been seen reused in frame buildings near the B. & O. line, including just up the hill from Ellicott City, in Baltimore County; they have a wide, shallow edge on what was originally the top face of the stringer, at one corner, where the strap rail had been spiked. The depression was most likely not cut into the wood, but rather was probably the result of the compression of the wood fibers under great weight. There are also spike holes in the center of this depression, and the spikes used had wide, flat heads like large nails. The Newton-Earp house joists are not like this, however. They have a wide, shallow depression in the center of the stringer, with the wood higher on the top corners, and they have L-shaped spikes at the edges of this depression.

³ Gunter Moltmann, "The Pattern of German Emigration to the United States in the Nineteenth Century." In *America and the Germans: An Assessment of a Three-Hundred-Year History*, v. 1, *Immigration, Language, Ethnicity*, edited by Frank Trommler and Joseph McVeigh. (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1985): 14-24.

Maryland Historical Trust

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Inventory No. HO-1021

Name Newton-Earp House
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Clearly, these stringers did not have strap rail, but must have had a taller rail like modern T-rail spiked to the center of the stringer.

Construction of the Washington Branch of the B. & O. Railroad, which branches from the main line at Relay, on the Baltimore County side of the Patapsco River and crosses over the river and through Elkridge, began in July 1833. Originally, the B. & O. Railroad intended to use wood stringers with strap rail here, as well, but as historian James Dilts recounts, "what they actually built was a single track of the better, yellow pine version, . . . topped with 40-pound T-rail, essentially in the modern configuration."⁴ This description seems to fit very closely with the stringers found in the Newton-Earp House. Unfortunately, we do not know when the original Washington Branch track was taken up and replaced, but it seems unlikely that it would have happened before 1840, and it could not have been kept for too long, or the wood stringers would have deteriorated beyond use. Thus, a date of c. 1842-45 seems reasonable for the construction of the house.

There is no evidence of appreciable changes to the house until c. 1890-1910, when the northeast wall was taken down and the house expanded to the northeast. This created a much wider entrance hall, with a new stairway and a bay window at the front. The effect was in keeping with the late nineteenth century Queen Anne revival that popularized grand entrance halls, bay windows, and turrets. The bay was carried through the second story to give the house a touch of this Queen Anne character on the exterior. The second story floor plan was altered, and the change must have been done at this time since the stair was changed and the second story northeast wall also taken down. It was also most likely at this time that the full second story was added to the ell. This preserved wood roof shingles that were in good condition and must have been a second roof put on shortly before the alterations were made. The siding seems to have been completely replaced with German siding. The carriage house was probably built at this time, too.

Major changes came in the 1920s when the house was converted to two apartments. The northeast addition was built to get a bedroom downstairs for the first-story apartment and a stairway to the upstairs apartment, as well as a sleeping porch up there. The porch on the side of the ell was enclosed to become a kitchen and the parlor mantel replaced with a period brick one. The old kitchen in the ell was subdivided to create a bedroom and bathroom. Upstairs, the changes mirrored the first story, with the south chamber mantel replaced by a period brick one to make this a parlor. The ell chamber was divided to get a bathroom in here, and an addition over part of the enclosed porch created a small kitchen space, with a milk delivery door between the kitchen and the new stairway landing. A new doorway was put in at the landing of the original stairway in order to close off the first from the second stories. Doorways

⁴ James D. Dilts, *The Great Road: The Building of the Baltimore & Ohio, the Nation's First Railroad, 1828-1853*. (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1993), pp. 157-58."

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Maryland Inventory of

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Inventory No. HO-1021

Name Newton-Earp House
Continuation Sheet

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seem to be more commonly used than walls in these conversions, probably to keep the house as flexible as possible for future use, and this probably explains why the stairway, most of which would no longer be used, was retained. On the exterior the new walls were covered with wood shingles and the German siding was also covered with them to tie the whole building together. Several minor additions were made to the rear of the house later, but they had little impact on the form or function of the house.

Thomas Newton continued to practice as a blacksmith here, and in 1860 his annual production included two carts and two wagons. He was listed as a master blacksmith, and his son was apparently still working with him, while Stephan Bryan was still working as a master wheelwright and his son, Stephen, was working with him. In 1870 Newton, now 70, was listed as a farmer, but his son was still working at blacksmithing. The 1878 Hopkins Atlas of Howard County shows several buildings on Newton's property, including the blacksmith shop located close to the road. Stephen Bryan appears to have died before 1870, but the business arrangement may have continued between Newton's and Bryan's sons. Newton was again listed as a blacksmith in 1880, and his son as a blacksmith and farmer. Thomas Newton died in 1883 at the age of 84 and his children divided the real estate, with Thomas S. Newton taking the blacksmith's shop and house. He sold both in 1896 to T. Sidney Earp, along with other land, for \$5,000. It seems likely that it was Earp who added the Queen Anne details to the house, but, unfortunately, the tax assessment records give no clue to when this work may have been done. Earp was also likely related to the Newtons, since the 1880 census has a 20-year-old woman with the name Earp listed as a grandchild and living with the Newtons. In 1870 the family of Charles Earp was listed just prior to Newton in the census, and his occupation, "cutting nails," suggests the possibility that he was working for or with Thomas Newton. The fact that a small operation was still making cut nails after the Civil War, presumably for a local market, is unexpected.⁵

Earp sold the house in 1914 to Edward and Mary Higgins, and they cut off two lots at the front of the property, where two Colonial Revival houses were built that appear to date to the 1920s. After Edward Higgins' death, his widow sold the Newton-Earp House to Robert and Eliza Hamilton of Baltimore. They probably never lived here, and either they or the Higgins's were likely responsible for enlarging the house and converting it to two apartments. It apparently remained apartments until July 2010, when the house was demolished to subdivide the land for development. Significant features of the house were salvaged by the Howard County Historical Society for their collection. Remote sensing by the developer according to County regulations uncovered a potential burial in the north corner of the site, and this was to be set aside so that it would not be disturbed.

⁵ U. S. Bureau of the Census, District 1, Howard County, Maryland, 1860. U. S. Bureau of the Census, Census of Manufactures, District 1, Howard County, Maryland, 1860. *Baltimore Sun*, 27 Oct. 1883, p. 2, col. 2. U. S. Bureau of the Census, District 1, Howard County, Maryland, 1870. U. S. Bureau of the Census, District 1, Howard County, Maryland, 1880.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-1021

See footnotes

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 3.056 A
Acreage of historical setting 5 A
Quadrangle name Relay

Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries consist of the outlines of the property, tax map 38, parcel 437, which encompasses all of the historic buildings and features on the site.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Ken Short		
organization	Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	11 May 2011
street & number	3430 Courthouse Drive	telephone	410-313-4335
city or town	Ellicott City	state	MD

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

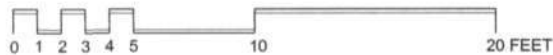
CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER -ATION	ACREAG E	NOTES
Stewart W. Wilderson /?	Stewart W. Wilderson Samuel F. Wilderson Margaret W. Bryant / ?	10 Oct. 2003	MDR 8293-492	Deed – fee simple	\$0	3.056 A.	BWW dec'd. p/o deed JLM3-243
Robert L. & Betty Lee Hamilton (H/W) / Pittsburgh	Stewart W. & Barbara W. Wilderson (H/W) / ?	14 May 1952	MWB 232-491	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00	3.056 A.	
Rosalie Hall / Howard	Robert L. & Betty Lee Hamilton (H/W) / Allegheny Co, PA	8 Dec. 1950	MWB 221-592	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00	3.056 A.	
Robert & Betty Lee Hamilton (H/W) / PA Beatrice Hamilton & Dr. George K. Patterson (H/W) / Buncombe Co, NC	Rosalie Hall /Howard	8 Dec. 1950	MWB 221-590	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00	3.056 A.	RLH d. Apr. 1945 EEH d. Jan. 1950, Intestate Grantors are only heirs & children
Mary Higgins, widow / Howard	Robert L. & Eliza Ellen Hamilton (H/W) / Balto. City	5 Nov. 1924	HBN 121-499	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00	3.056 A.	EFH dec'd.
T. Sidney Earp & wf Bertha H. / Howard Patapsco Bldg & Loan Assoc.	Edward F. & Mary Higgins (H/W) / Howard	19 Dec. 1914	WWLC 98-261	Deed & Release – fee simple	\$5.00	4.876 A.	See mortgage WWLC 87-28 & 93-564
Thomas S. Newton / Howard	T. Sidney Earp / Balto. Co.	6 May 1896	ACR 65-392	Deed – ?	\$5,000	1) 7+ A.- 1A. 2) 5 A± 3) 4 ½A	3 lots 1) p/o 'Hanover' on NW side Washington Tnpk 2) where TN lived @ death 1 st lot in deed of partition 3) p/o First Discovery
Margaret Ann Newton Julia Ann Earp & hus. Edward / Howard	Thomas S. Newton	18 July 1885	LJW 49-420	Deed of Partition	\$5.00	A) 5 A. B) ¼ A. C) 3 ½A.	TN d. 25 Oct. 1883, Intestate – 3 kids, MAN, JAE & TSN owned land in Dorchester Co. too B) had blacksmith shop (2)

Newton-Earp House (HO-1021)
6084 Old Washington Blvd.

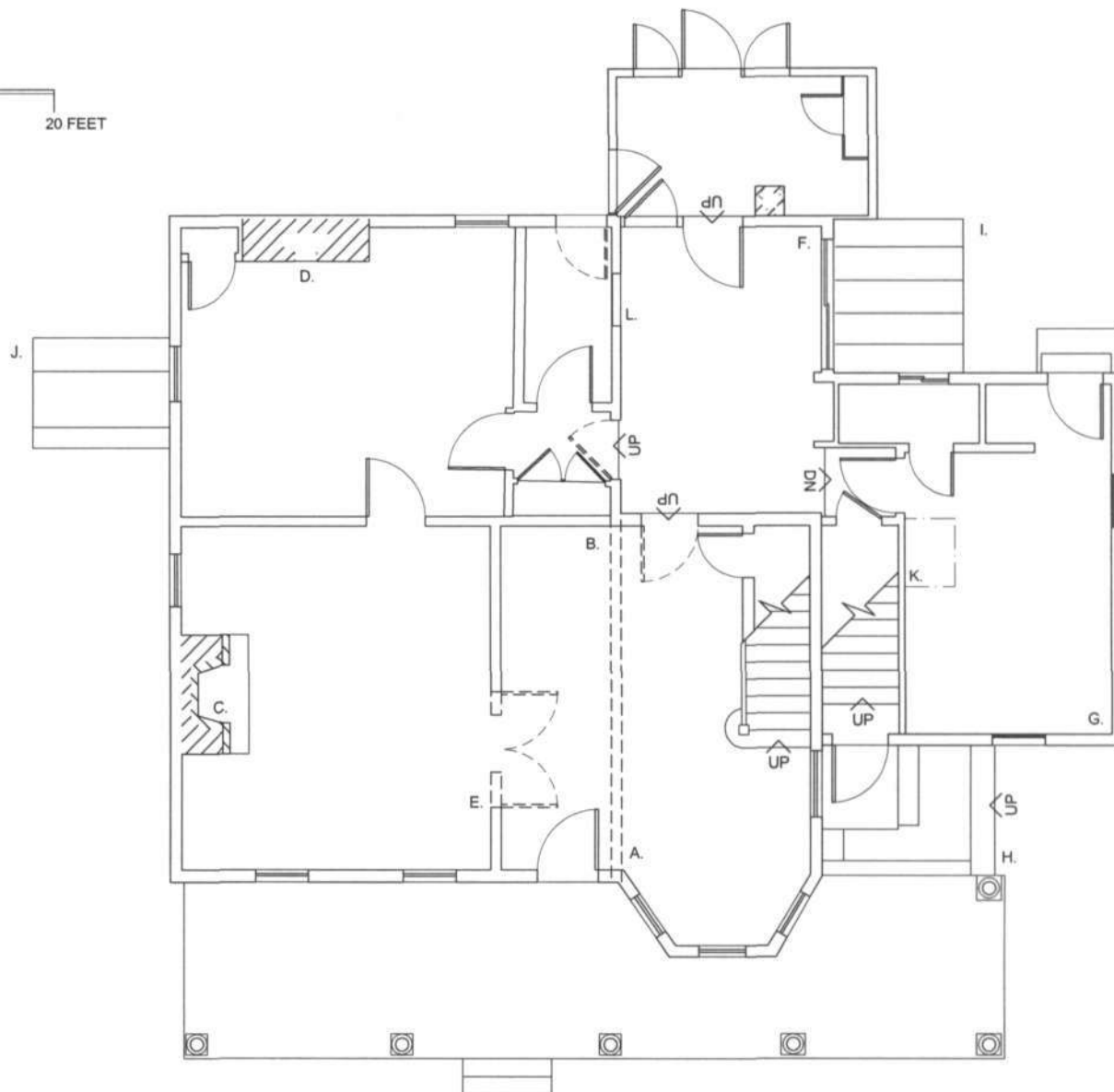
CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER -ATION	ACREAG E	NOTES
Charles Rowles	Thomas S. Newton	13 Mar. 1860	WWW 20-504				(1)
Emanuel Lewis & wf Eliza Thomas Lewis & wf Charlotte / Balto. City	Thomas Newton / Howard Dist., Anne Arundel	19 Mar. 1842	JLM 3-243	Indenture	\$250	5 A ±	Reserve right to bury deed in 40' sq lot in corner of this land @ N. end
Robert E. Dorsey & wf	Thomas S. Newton	27 July 1865	WWW 24-261				(3)
Abraham Lewis	Emanuel Lewis Thomas Lewis	3 July 1839	AA Co. Wills	Bequest			Brothers (A)



NOTES:

- A. LOCATION OF ORIGINAL EXTERIOR WALL.
- B. GENERAL LOCATION OF ORIGINAL STAIRWAY.
- C. FIREBOX REBUILT AND BRICK MANTEL ADDED c. 1920s.
- D. CHIMNEY CONTAINS NO EVIDENCE OF FIREBOX, ONLY A LOW STOVEPIPE HOLE WITH EVIDENCE OF SHELVES ON EAST SIDE AND POSSIBLE STAIRWAY ON WEST SIDE. EAST SIDE OF CHIMNEY CONTAINS PLASTER ON BRICK AT THE BOTTOM, WITH EARLY STENCILLING.
- E. DOORWAY WIDENED c. 1920s.
- F. ORIGINAL OPEN PORCH ENCLOSED.
- G. ADDITION c. 1920s.
- H. CONCRETE STEPS BELOW WOOD PORCHES.
- I. ROOF OF LOW SHED ADDITION.
- J. CELLAR ENTRANCE ADDED IN 20TH CENTURY.
- K. STAIRWAY PROJECTS INTO ROOM AT CEILING.
- L. WINDOW OPENING CLOSED OFF.

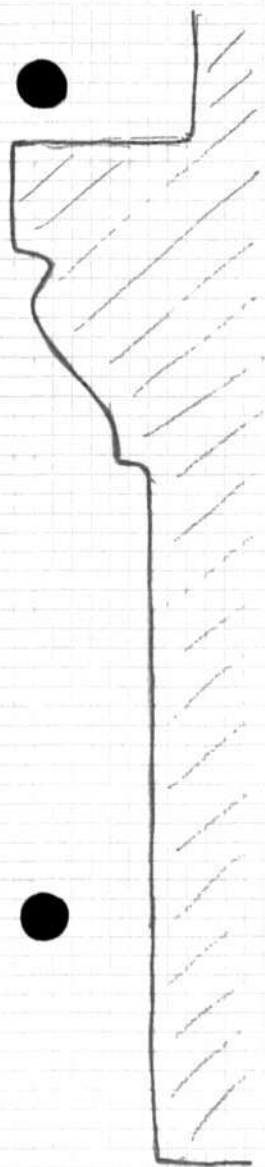


HO-1021 NEWTON-EARP HOUSE 6084 OLD WASHINGTON BOULEVARD

FIRST FLOOR PLAN -- MEASURED BY KEN SHORT AND RACHEL SALAFIA -- DRAWN BY KEN SHORT -- JULY 2010

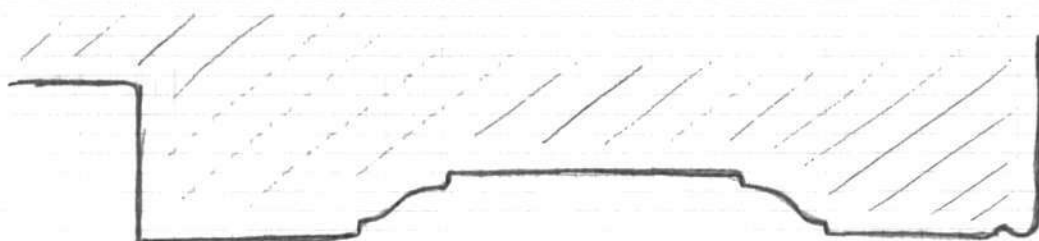
Newton-Earp House HO-1021
6084 Old Washington Blvd
Moulding Profiles

KMS
9 July 2010



SW
Rm
N.
Door
Architrave

SW Rm Window Architrave



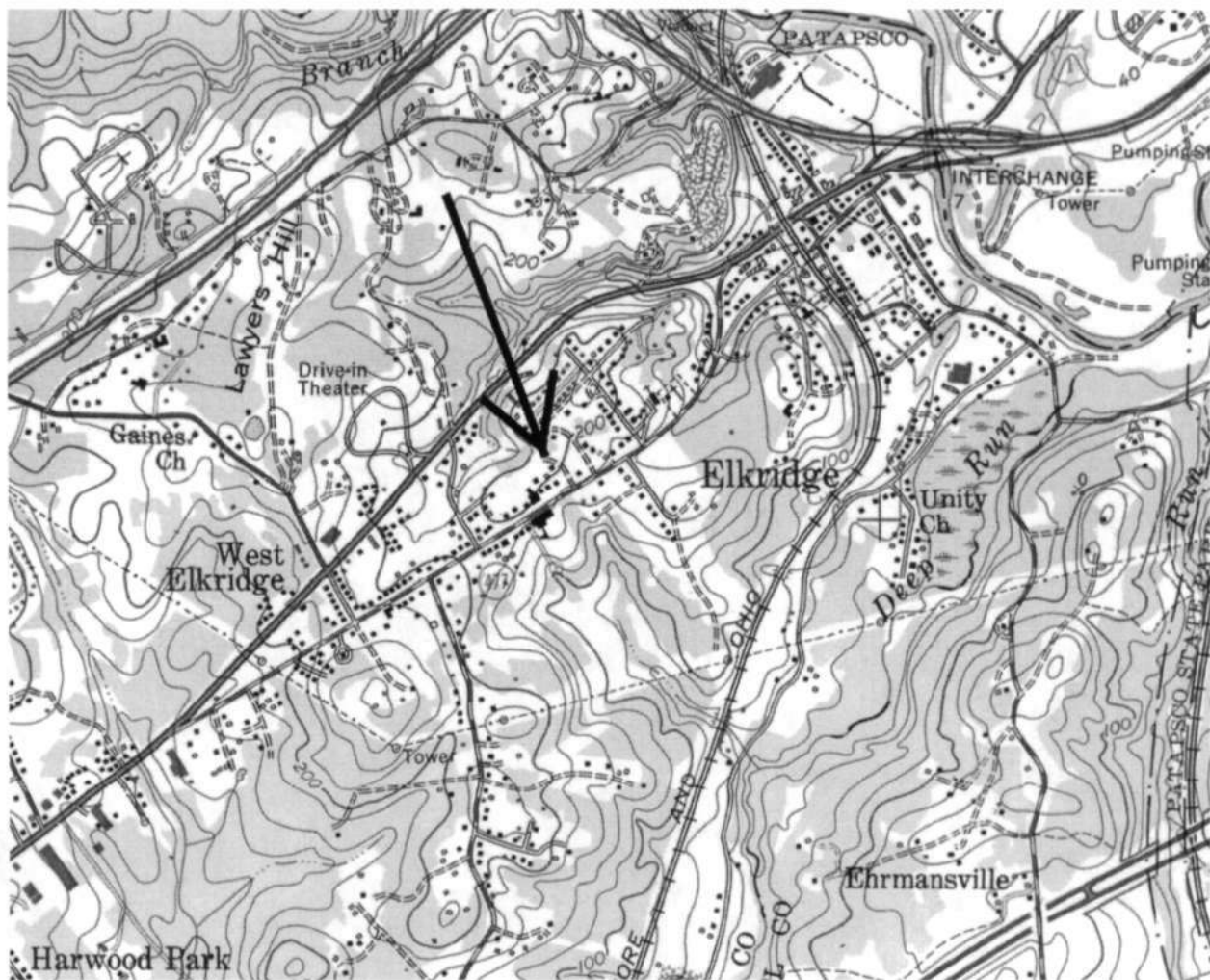
HO-1021
Newton-Earp House, site
6084 Old Washington Boulevard, Elkridge
Bing Maps Bird's Eye view, c. 2009
Facing south

DEMOLISHED 2010



Facing west





HO-1021
Newton-Earp House
6084 Old Washington Boulevard, Elkridge
Relay Quad

HO-1021
Newton-Earp House
6084 Old Washington Blvd.
Howard County, Maryland
Ken Short, photographer

Photo Log

Nikon D-70 camera
HP Premium Plus paper
HP Gray Photo print cartridge

HO-1021_2010-07-06_01
House, southeast elevation

HO-1021_2010-07-06_09
House, west room stenciling

HO-1021_2010-07-06_02
House, southeast elevation, front door detail

HO-1021_2010-07-06_10
House, Guttered corner post in south corner

HO-1021_2010-07-06_03
House, northeast elevation

HO-1021_2010-07-06_11
House, railroad tie re-used as joist, from
cellar below west room

HO-1021_2010-07-06_04
House, northwest elevation

HO-1021_2010-07-06_12
Garage, southeast & northeast elevations

HO-1021_2010-07-06_05
House, southwest elevation

HO-1021_2010-07-06_06
House, interior, entrance hall, vw. north

HO-1021_2010-07-06_07
House, interior, entrance hall, vw. southeast

HO-1021_2010-07-06_08
House, interior, entrance hall, stained glass
transom



HO-1021
Newton-Earp House
6084 Old Washington Blvd.
Howard County, Maryland
Ken Short
2010-07-06
MD SHPO
House, southeast elevation
1 of 12



H0-1021

Newton-Earp House

6084 Old Washington Blvd.

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-07-06

MD SHPO

House, southeast elevation, front door detail

2 of 12



HO-1021

Newton-Earp House
6084 Old Washington Blvd.

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-07-06

MD SHPO

House, northeast elevation

3 of 12



40-1021

Newton-Earp House

6084 Old Washington Blvd.

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-07-06

MD SHPO

House, northwest elevation

4 of 12



HO-1021

Newton-Earp House

6084 Old Washington Blvd.

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-07-06

MD SHPO

House, Southwest elevation

5 of 12



HD-1021

Newton-Earp House

6084 Old Washington Blvd.

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-07-06

MD SHPO

House, interior, entrance hall, v.w. north

6 of 12



H0-1021

Newton-Earp House

6084 Old Washington Blvd.

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-07-06

MD SHPO

House, interior, entrance hall, vw, southwest

7 of 12



H0-1021

Newton-Earp House

6084 Old Washington Blvd.

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-07-06

MD SHPO

House, interior, entrance hall, stained glass
transom

8 of 12



HD-1021

Newton-Earp House
6084 Old Washington Blvd.
Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-07-06

MD SHPO

House, west room stenciling

9 of 12



HD-1021

Newton-Earp House
6084 Old Washington Blvd.
Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-07-06

MD SHPO

House, gutted corner post in south corner

10 of 12



H0-1021

Newton-Earp House

6084 Old Washington Blvd.

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-07-06

MD SHPO

House, railroad tie re-used as joist, from
cellar below west room

11 of 12



HD-1021

Newton-Earp House
6084 Old Washington Blvd.
Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-07-06

MD SHPO

Garage, southeast + northeast elevations

12 of 12